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23 APR 1956

Major General W. S. Grant 3rd, USA (Ret)
President, American Planning and Civic Association
901 Union Trust Building
15th and H Street, N. W.
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear General Grant:

As you know, we have been considering the selection of a site for the proposed Central Intelligence Agency headquarters building for more than a year, in cooperation with the National Capital Regional Planning Council and the National Capital Planning Commission. We also engaged a private firm of landscape architects and consulting engineers to study independently several of the more than 30 possible locations which were under consideration.

Recently, we received the final report of the National Capital Planning Commission approving our proposal to locate the new Central Intelligence Agency headquarters building on a portion of the Bureau of Public Roads property at Langley, Virginia. In view of the sincere interest you have expressed in this matter, we would like you to know that we have decided to proceed with our plans to locate our building at that site. Among all of the properties we have studied, we sincerely believe that the Langley property provides the site best suited to our needs.

We regret, of course, that it is impossible to obtain unanimous agreement with this decision, but I am sure you realize that this condition would obtain in connection with any site selected for an installation of this size; and we are, of course, limited to the selection of only one. We have the most sincere respect for the views you have expressed in this regard, and deeply appreciate having had the opportunity to consider them in connection with the final selection of our site.

Sincerely,

15/

L. K. White

OL/BPS: [] mec (3 Apr '56) Deputy Director

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1 - BPS subject 1 - BPS chrono

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